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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JUNE 14, 2000

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

At the relation of the

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

CASE NO. PUA990054

Ex Parte: In the matter of
adopting additions and amendments
to the Commission's rules governing
the filing of rate increase applications

ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL NOTICE

On September 14, 1999, the Commission issued its Order Establishing Proceeding in this matter. In that Order, we directed that notice of the proceeding be published in newspapers having general circulation throughout the Commonwealth. By service of the September 14, 1999, Order by first-class mail on all jurisdictional utilities, the Office of Attorney General's Division of Consumer Counsel, and other interested parties, and by notice published in The Virginia Register of Regulations, extensive notice of this proceeding was provided. The Commission has discovered, however, that notice of the proceeding was not published in newspapers as directed by our Order.

Pursuant to our September 14 Order and subsequent procedural orders, the Commission received comments, requests for hearing, and testimony on the proposed revisions to the Rules Governing Utility Rate Increase Applications and Annual Informational Filings,¹ and the Rules Governing Streamlined Rate Proceedings and General Rate Proceedings for Electric Cooperatives Subject to the State Corporation Commission's Rate Jurisdiction,² (collectively, "Rate Case Rules"). The Commission held hearings on June 6 and 7, 2000, wherein the Commission received evidence, heard oral argument, and directed that certain issues be addressed further in legal memoranda to be filed June 30, 2000.

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of this matter, is of the opinion that additional notice of this proceeding should be published in newspapers of general circulation throughout the state. We will permit any party who has not appeared in this proceeding or was not on the service list of our September 14, 1999, Order and who desires to file comments or request further hearing to do so by June 30, 2000. Any request for further hearing must be accompanied by comments clearly explaining why the issues raised cannot be accommodated by our consideration of the pleadings filed in this matter.

¹ 20 VAC 5-200-30.

² 20 VAC 5-200-21.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) On or before June 30, 2000, any interested party not having either already noted an appearance in this proceeding or been included on the service list of the September 14, 1999, Order Establishing Proceeding may file with the Clerk of the Commission an original and fifteen (15) copies of comments on the proposed revisions to the Rate Case Rules, or request additional hearing. Any request for further hearing should state with specificity the issues proposed to be addressed at such hearing and the evidence expected to be offered therein, and should explain why the issues raised cannot be accommodated by our consideration on the pleadings.

(3) On or before June 20, 2000, the Commission's Division of Information Resources shall cause a copy of the following notice to be published in newspapers having general circulation throughout the state:

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULES
ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE CORPORATION
COMMISSION FOR THE FILING OF RATE INCREASE
APPLICATIONS BY PUBLIC UTILITIES,
COOPERATIVES AND TELEPHONE COMPANIES
CASE NO. PUA990054

On September 14, 1999, the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") entered an Order directing its Staff to investigate and propose amendments and additions to the Commission's Rules Governing Utility Rate Increase Applications and Annual Informational Filings and its Rules Governing Streamlined Rate Proceedings

and General Rate Proceedings for Electric Cooperatives Subject to the State Corporation Commission's Rate Jurisdiction, (collectively, "Rate Case Rules").

The Commission is of the opinion that a comprehensive review of the Rate Case Rules is necessary in light of sweeping changes in the public utility industries and amendments to the Code of Virginia that have occurred since the rules were last reviewed comprehensively. In particular, the enactment of the Virginia Electric Utility Restructuring Act, which became effective July 1, 1999, extensively altered the manner in which electric utility service will be provided and regulated in the Commonwealth.

Notice of this proceeding was to have been published in newspapers of general circulation throughout the state. By service of the September 14, 1999, Order by first-class mail on all jurisdictional utilities, the Office of Attorney General's Division of Consumer Counsel, and other interested parties, and by notice published in The Virginia Register of Regulations, extensive notice of this proceeding was provided. The Commission has discovered, however, that notice of the proceeding was not published in newspapers as directed by its Order.

Pursuant to our September 14, 1999, Order and subsequent procedural orders, the Commission's Staff filed a report on November 9, 1999, proposing certain amendments to the Rate Case Rules, and the Commission received comments, requests for hearing, and testimony on the Staff's proposed revisions. The Commission held hearings on June 6 and 7, 2000.

On or before June 30, 2000, any interested party not having either noted an appearance in this proceeding or been included on the service list of the

September 14, 1999, Order Establishing Proceeding may file with Joel H. Peck, Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia, 23218, an original and fifteen (15) copies of comments or request for further hearing on the proposed revisions to the Rate Case Rules. Any request for further hearing should state with specificity the issues proposed to be addressed at such hearing and the evidence expected to be offered therein, and should explain why the issues raised cannot be accommodated by our consideration of the pleadings.

VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

(4) This matter is continued for further orders of the Commission.